

NOTES ON SOME HESPERIIDAE FROM ALABAMA (LEPIDOPTERA, RHOPALOCERA)

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Atrytone dukesi Lindsey.

Dr. Lindsey described *Atrytone dukesi* in *Entomological News*, XXXIV, No. 7, pages 209-210, 1923, from four male specimens, collected in Mobile County, Alabama, during the month of August.

The writer collected eleven specimens of this species, eight males and three females, at Mobile, Alabama, from August 24 to September 2, 1925, and saw several other specimens, which he was unable to capture; most of the specimens captured, and observed, were found in the vicinity of, and visiting the flowers of, a species of *Hibiscus* growing in the marsh about a mile from the Union Station; some individuals were, however, found visiting other flowering plants growing in this marsh, but none was found in any of the other localities where the writer collected; they were usually quite shy and difficult of approach; their flight somewhat resembled that of *Phycanassa viator*, through or just over the tops of the rank vegetation, which grew from waist to shoulder high, so that they would readily disappear from view among it; when frightened, they flew with considerable speed and for a long distance; they were more readily captured when visiting the flowers of the *Hibiscus*, into which they crawled and could be approached within collecting range, as they were nearly hidden from view within the flower; Dr. van Aller and Mr. Lodging, of Mobile, who have collected specimens of *dukesi*, say that they have more often found them resting on the leaves of *Pontederia*, but none of the writer's specimens was so found. The specimens collected were in variable condition, some quite fresh, others much worn.

Since the writer's visit to Mobile, Dr. van Aller and Mr. Lodging have collected and sent to him several specimens of both sexes, taken during September and up to October 11.

In the fresher male specimens, the narrow, fulvous spots, bordering the lower side of the stigma, are usually bright and prominent, but in worn specimens they are so greatly reduced as to be barely noticeable; there is also some variation in the brightness of the color of the secondaries beneath and the distinctness of the rays; many of the specimens taken in late September and October are noticeably smaller in size than those taken on the earlier dates; one taken on October 11 is somewhat aberrant in having a slightly curved row of three, small, ill-defined, pale spots below the cell, on the primaries beneath.

The females are larger than the males; above, of approximately the same color, and with the fulvous area of the secondaries; beneath, though variable, generally of a more brownish color than the males and the pale rays less contrasting. The upperside of the primaries may be immaculate or have from one to three discal spots in a transverse band; these spots, when all are present, are in the interspaces between veins 1-2, 2-3, 3-4, the uppermost being just below the end of the cell; the spot in the interspace between veins 2-3 is the largest and brightest, somewhat crescentic in well-marked specimens; when only one spot occurs, it is this second or median spot of the band; on the underside of the primaries, this second spot is the only one distinctly repeated; in one specimen there is a very faint indication of the upper spot. There is no trace of sub-apical spots in any specimen before the writer.

***Atrytone dion* race *alabamæ* Lindsey.**

A single female specimen taken at Chickasaw, on September 1, has the spots of the transverse band of the primaries and the sub-apical spots more reduced than those usually found in the typical females of *dion*; and, as noted in the description, the pale ray of the secondaries beneath is less contrasting; they differ from the females of *dukesi* in the more pointed apex of the primaries, in the presence of the sub-apical spots, the darker, reddish undersurface of the secondaries and in that all of the spots of the transverse band of the upper surface of the primaries are present on the under surface.

This race of *dion* was described by Dr. Lindsey in the same issue of *Entomological News* mentioned at the beginning of this

paper, following the description of *dukesei*, from one male collected in Mobile County, Alabama, in June.

Atrytonopsis verna Edwards.

A single, worn female was taken at Chickasaw, on September 1; this is the southernmost record for *verna*, known to the writer.

Copæodes minima Edwards.

This bright little species was very common at Mobile and Springhill, and in lesser numbers in some of the other localities in the vicinity.

Atrytone byssus Edwards.

One male and several females, all more or less worn, were taken at Chickasaw, in the pine woods, in grassy places, none were observed to visit the flowers, and their habit of settling low in the grass made them rather easily overlooked.

Amblyscirtes alternata Grote and Robinson.

Several specimens of this little species were taken at Dog River, near Mobile, in the pine woods, their swift, low flight and their dark color, amid the shadows in the woods, made it difficult to follow them with the eye, once they were disturbed, and their habit of alighting low in the grass or on the ground among it, made them hard to find.

Amblyscirtes textor Hubner.

Two specimens of this rather scarce species were taken at Chickasaw, on September 1 and 2, one each day.